

Hawaii MARINE

INSIDE

CG's Mail Box	A-2
Environmental Award	A-2
Gas Chamber	A-3
Nuupia Ponds	B-1
MCCS & SM&SP	B-2
Alcohol Awareness	B-3
Menu	B-5
Word to Pass	B-6
Motorcycle Safety	B-7
Intramural Softball	C-1
Sports Briefs	C-2
The Bottom Line	C-3

Volume 34, Number 20

www.mcbh.usmc.mil

May 21, 2004

'Click It or Ticket' returns

Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Combat Correspondent

Click It or Ticket, the nationwide law enforcement effort to protect young people and others from a leading risk of traffic accidents, is getting into full gear here, Monday through June 6.

The national safety belt usage rate has jumped to 79 percent in the past year, making it the highest level in the nation's history. Although rates of usage are increasing, holidays, as well as

Memorial Day weekend show an increase of traffic accidents, many of which can be prevented.

Besides the usual ticket resulting in a two-point deduction on a service member's base driving privileges, a new Marine Corps Order published May 9 provides added incentive to take an extra 15 seconds, and buckle up safety belts.

A first offense nets a mandatory seven-day suspension of driving privileges on base, plus attendance at a

Saturday four-hour remedial driving class focused on safety belts. A second offense gives a one-month suspension of driving privileges, and the class and point deductions. A third offense yields a six-month suspension of driving privileges, along with the class and point deductions.

"Over the past year, our Corps has lost an unacceptable number of Marines in preventable mishaps," said the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. M. W. Hagee. "The losses from these

mishaps are as tragic as those suffered from combat, and although the majority of Marines have returned safely from Operation Iraqi Freedom, the risk is even higher now."

According to Mario Diprete, base safety specialist, it's much too easy for today's youth to believe nothing will happen to them. They have to be surrounded with a strong message, unfortunately, that if they won't buckle up to save their life, they should buckle to save themselves from a ticket.

Hands as weapons



Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Sergeant Steven Byrnes, martial arts instructor for Headquarters Battalion here, looks on as Pfc. Sean Denson, personnel administration clerk, and Cpl. Nicole Smith, joint education center clerk, both with Headquarters Bn., head a long line of Marines during group push-ups. Since all Marines of Headquarters Bn. must be gray belt qualified by October, martial arts training is a high priority. To qualify, Marines must complete 29 hours of training and at least 90 percent of tan belt remediation.

Base chaplain named bishop

Pfc. Rich Mattingly

Sports Editor

"I received a message to call the apostolic nuncio, the representative of the pope in the United States. ... He said that Pope John Paul II had just appointed me as a bishop for the Archdiocese for the Military Services of the United States. It was a complete shock!

"I called and ... I said 'Yes, sir!' I don't think anyone had ever called him 'sir' before," said the base command chaplain, before laughing and breaking into his characteristic, comforting smile. The revelation that he was to be installed as a bishop changed everything and nothing for this unassuming man.

Looking around at the mementos festooning the wood-paneled walls of his office, with the phone still to his ear, Navy Chaplain (Capt.) Joseph W. Estabrook command chaplain here, thought first about the troops he serves as chaplain.

Since his ordination as a priest in 1969, Estabrook has had a storied career that has only had one goal: helping others face the challenges of this world while walking the path to God.

When an archbishop friend suggested Estabrook join the Navy early in his career in the Catholic Church, the young priest didn't know what to do. He'd never really considered joining the military, and he didn't even know what a Navy uniform looked like, much less what his job might be like, ministering to Sailors.

"Geez," he thought, "I can't even keep my shoes shined."

As it turns out, shining his shoes would be less of a concern than keeping his seabag at the ready. He quickly began a whirlwind three-year tour, visiting 15-30 ships a year throughout Europe.

When he was asked to again shift gears and start working with the Marine Corps, Estabrook thought it didn't sound like a bad idea at all.

"I kept extending; my three years turned into four and so on

Marines learn combat casualty care tactics

Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Combat Correspondent

You are in an unknown field environment. The only sounds engulfing your eardrums are the ringing of unrelenting



Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Navy Lt. David Callaway, battalion surgeon for 3rd Radio Bn., pours tomato juice, simulating blood, on Petty Officer 1st Class Ryan Lisec, a corpsman for 3rd Radio Bn.

gunfire in the air, followed by screams of your fellow service members as they rush on, defending the area.

As time passes, one of them falls beside you. The firing doesn't end, but he needs your help. What do you do?

Medical personnel along with multiple Marine units here took part in a course known as Tactical Combat Casualty Care, May 11 - 14. This two-day crash course was designed to give Marines and corpsmen the knowledge to deal with combat situations that could easily arise with today's war on terrorism.

"The guideline for this course is to be able to care for the wounded on the battlefield, until they can get professional attention once removed from it," said Dr. Stephen Giebner, chairman for Tactical Combat Casualty Care.

This was the first time the course had been taught on base. The interest from Marines and the medical department wanting the latest on combat casual care allowed this to happen, said Giebner.

"The main focus is getting the person to know what to do on the battlefield to care for an immediate injury," said Giebner. "In a firefight, these people need to know when to intervene, and what to do once out there."

Among other things, service members learned different ways to stop heavy arterial bleeding, how to secure and control an open airway and how to recognize and treat patients for shock.

"The people in this course now understand how emergency care on the battlefield is different from caring for someone in garrison," said Giebner.

The goal is to incorporate the curriculum into formal medical training for all Marines and corpsmen, said Lt. David Callaway, battalion surgeon for 3rd Radio Battalion. "Right now we are working from the bottom up and teaching a few from different units, so they can spread their knowledge when they go back."

According to Callaway, the military is working feverishly on getting the knowledge out to people because of the war in Iraq.

"Garrison medical practices are used very differently in a tactical environment," said Callaway. "We are no longer in a peacetime situation, and everyone should be prepared to perform in the most proficient manner when needed in the field."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Sheena Dietz, a corpsman with 3rd Radio Bn, will be heading to Iraq in June and feels much more prepared since taking this course.

"Some of the medical practices I have been exposed to are totally new to me," said Dietz. "It is totally different from basic training where you only learn how to apply medical practices in a garrison environment."

"I know it won't prepare me entirely for Iraq, but it will benefit me, I know. I feel more confident now."

See *CHAPLAIN*, A-5

MCBH News Briefs

Free Food Gets Distributed, Today

Military individuals and families may be eligible to receive free peaches, pears, pinto beans, tomato sauce, peanut butter and dry potatoes during the Honolulu Community Action Program's food surplus distribution, today from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Youth Activities Center, Bldg. 5082.

First-come, first served, patrons need only show their ID card and LES (leave and earnings statement) to receive their allotment of food, based on the following:

Household Size	Annual Income
1	\$16,050
2	\$21,540
3	\$27,030
4	\$32,520

(Note: Add \$5,490 for each additional family member.)

For more details, call Angela Reed at Marine and Family Services at 257-7786.

Base Holds Stand Down, Wednesday

All personnel are reminded to attend the Memorial Day Stand Down this Wednesday, May 26, from 9 until 10:30 a.m. at the field located next to the Base Safety Center, Bldg. 279. Topics to be addressed are water, boating and motorcycle safety, as well as drinking and driving. For more information, call 257-1830.

Special Olympics Seeks Volunteers

Marines and Sailors are needed to help with the Special Olympics State Summer Games, May 28 - 30. Help is needed to support various activities at the University of Hawaii event location.

To volunteer, or for more details, call Daina Hart at 943-8808, ext. 30, or e-mail volunteers@specialolympicshawaii.org.

Important Numbers

On-Base Emergencies	257-9111
Military Police	257-7114
Child Protective Service	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188

Hawaii MARINE

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The *Hawaii Marine* is an unofficial newspaper published every Friday by MidWeek Printing, Inc., 45-525 Luluku Road, Kaneohe, HI 96744, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Marine Corps, under exclusive contract to the U.S. Marine Corps. This civilian enterprise is an authorized publication for members of the military services.

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IN THE CG's MAIL BOX



BRIG. GEN.
MCABEE

I am a Marine spouse, and I am preparing for a PCS (permanent change of station) move to Hawaii, which we are looking forward to. In my preparations, I am checking into lodging and housing for our arrival.

I have made a reservation with The Lodge; to my understanding, it will be at \$75 per night, which I know will be paid by TLA (temporary lodging allowance) for up to 60 days.

Housing has informed me that there is a two- to four-month wait for our family size and rank. In my Web surfing of the area, I found the Hickam Air Force Base Web site, and their lodging is only \$35 per night.

Maybe a way to better help the family and the PCSing budget is finding a more affordable means for temp lodging to benefit both, if it can be done. I am not sure, but I believe that theirs is done under billing, and The Lodge is not.

If there is somewhere else for PCSing families to use for temp lodging, this Web page does not inform viewers of that.

Thank you for your time,
Francine Morgan

▲▲▲

Dear Mrs. Morgan,
The commanding general asked me to respond to your e-mail because your concern falls within my staff responsibilities. He appreciates that you took the time to par-

ticipate in the "CG Mail" program.

Thank you for visiting our Web page and for making reservations at The Lodge.

There are two types of temporary housing for personnel transitioning to and from Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

Temporary Lodging Facilities (TLF) accommodate personnel transitioning between permanent changes of station, guests of permanently assigned personnel, retirees visiting the area, and other authorized patrons visiting the base who require temporary housing needs.

Transient lodging facilities, on the other hand, accommodate personnel in a temporary duty status aboard our base. While both types of lodging facilities are designed to accommodate personnel requiring temporary quarters, they differ in how they are funded.

Transient lodging facilities are constructed and operated solely from monies generated from the room fees. These are called nonappropriated funds.

Transient lodging is most often constructed with appropriated funds (APF) or taxpayer dollars. appropriated funds also pays for personnel operating expenses and maintenance fees. This is the reason for the higher TLF room fees.

When setting TLF fees, our goal is to ensure a savings to the government of at least 25 percent from the average temporary lodging allowance (TLA) rate for the area. In Hawaii, TLA reimbursement rates are \$112 per night, and our fee per

night at The Lodge is \$75. The savings equates to \$37 (or 33 percent below the TLA rate for Hawaii).

The facility at Hickam operates primarily as a transient lodging facility for temporary duty travel. Because Hickam's transient lodging facilities are subsidized with APF, they provide these rooms at a lower rate. Families in a PCS status not assigned to Hickam are limited to a three-day length of stay, with day-by-day extensions thereafter.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii also has transient lodging facilities like those found at Hickam with room fees lower than at the TLF. Located at the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Bachelor Enlisted Quarters and at the Bachelor Officers' Quarters, they are available on a space-available basis and can be reserved for two weeks' stay, and weekly extensions are available.

The fee is \$25 per night for the first person and \$6 per night for each additional occupant; however, transient duty personnel have priority for stay in these rooms.

We appreciate your thoughtful comments and concerns. We believe that you will be pleased with the quality of accommodations at The Lodge at Kaneohe Bay.

If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me at 254-7500.

Sincerely,
Mr. William B. Lindsey
Assistant Chief of Staff
Marine Corps
Community Services

(Editor's Note: Letters of any length may be trimmed and edited in the interest of good taste and brevity.)

The commanding general invites input from

the base community via C.G. Mail on the following topics: What are we doing that we shouldn't be doing? What are we not doing that we should be doing? What are we doing that we

should be doing better?

Responses should include a recommendation that will help solve the problem and must include your name and return address.

MCB Hawaii recognized for environmental conservation

Cpl. Jessica M. Mills Combat Correspondent

Upholding the bar for continued success, the Secretary of the Navy awarded MCB Hawaii the Natural Resources Conservation Award for small installations, as well as the Environmental Quality Award for nonindustrial installations, May 4, at the Secretary of the Navy Environmental Awards in Washington, D.C.

Since 1982, this base has continuously won environmental awards, recognizing its efforts and accomplishments in protecting natural resources and wildlife, and in preserving historic areas.

"This base has engrained the environmental stewardship ethic into its very core," said Dr. Diane Drigot, senior natural resources management specialist here. "We represent the Marine Corps' conservation ethic by making environmental issues a prior-

ity, and taking the time to make a difference.

"We consistently participate in environmental projects and show a strong community relationship, and that is why we continue to be recognized."

One of the most impressive success stories here has been the completion of a major effort that has spanned more than 22 years. The base has

See ENVIRONMENTAL, A-4



RIECK

VP-9 changes command

Commander Rodney M. Urbano assumed command of Patrol Squadron 9 from Cmdr. Daniel G. Rieck at a change of command ceremony on May 7. Rieck moved on to continue his education at the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, Calif. Urbano came here in May 2003 as executive officer.



URBANO

The Chamber



Annual NBC training keeps Marines current

Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson
Combat Correspondent

As a group of Marines enters in a single file, all that can be seen in the center of the chamber is a small, burning can, which at first glance seems absolutely harmless.

As time goes on, the group is asked to complete a series of drills by the instructor walking around them.

The time is soon. In one short moment, they will be instructed to remove the only thing keeping them away from the contents of that small, harmless-looking can. They will be ordered to “break the seal.”

These Marines are performing nuclear,

biological and chemical training. They must remove their gas masks in the presence of the canister of O-chlorobenzal-malononitrile — CS gas — before the release of the gas.

When administered, CS gas tends to irritate the skin and cause the person to cough with burning sensations in the nose and throat. Burning in the eyes with excess mucus secretion is also a common factor.

All Marines go through this type of training once every year to remain confident in their NBC skills and to ensure they can survive in a contaminated environment and complete the mission.

“It’s important for the Marines to be proficient in acting correctly

and quickly in an NBC environment,” said Staff Sgt. Aaron Dobson, the NBC specialist who runs the gas chamber for Headquarters Battalion here. “Equipment and gear changes over time, so if they keep up on their knowledge, when faced with a real situation, they can act accordingly.”

After entering the chamber and performing the series of drills to demonstrate their understanding of how to use the mask, Marines perform side-straddle hops and shake their heads around, proving their capability and mobility when wearing the mask.

After all exercises are completed successfully, they then break the mask seal and allow gas to seep in. Only after

everyone has completed this task and provided a thumbs up, are all allowed to don and clear their masks, then walk single-file out of the gas chamber.

Dobson said panicking is the most common mistake Marines make when going through the gas chamber.

“Sometimes, the Marines think they are running out of breath and can’t clear their masks correctly,” said Dobson. “They forget everything they are taught and continue to take in the gas.”

When Marines enter the fresh air and remove their masks, relief is almost instantaneous. The gear is returned, the next group suits up, and the cycle begins anew.

The art of the gas chamber

By **Lance Cpls Michelle M. Dickson and Megan L. Stiner**
Combat Correspondents

Yet another brilliant idea landed us in quite an unusual situation. On average, a Marine has to go to the gas chamber once a year for required Marine Corps training. So we figured why not go in a few times, take our masks off and get some solid photos.

Okay, so the gas chamber experience here is no match for the Marine Corps Recruit Depot’s, but let’s just say, we got our fill of chlorobenzal malononitrile.

It all began the same as any other normal Public Affairs Office morning routine: We left the office, drove to Training Area Boondocker and suited up in Mission Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) gear. But, unfortunately for us, this is where the similarities ended.

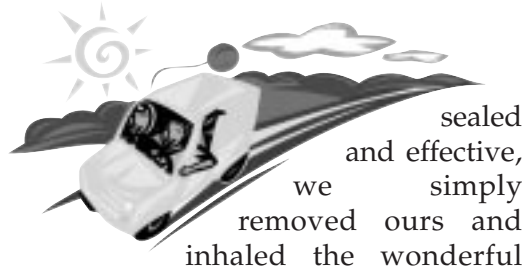
After sitting through the

informative hour-long speech about nuclear, biological and chemical warfare, not to mention current world events, by Staff Sgt. Aaron Dobson, the NBC specialist with Headquarters Battalion here, we had the chance to don and clear our masks a couple times before the fun began.

Adrenaline rushed through our veins as we entered the dreaded chamber, similar to how Indiana Jones must have felt as he cautiously maneuvered his way through the horrifying Temple of Doom. We suddenly had flashbacks of boot camp; we had been through this together once before and had seen visions of drill instructors laughing at our platoon through the small windows surrounding the chamber.

At this point, Marines had begun to enter the small concrete room, and it was time to check the gear. Our first trip through the chamber was strictly professional. After all, we had to perform the annual training as well.

We entered the second time, ready for more, and while the other Marines tested out their masks to be sure they were



sealed and effective, we simply removed ours and inhaled the wonderful nontoxic fumes.

By the time the song and dance of the mask testing was over, the air was quite dense with the gas mixture.

Then came the exciting part, as the fumes danced merrily in our eyes — and by dancing, we don’t mean a waltz. It was more like one of those techno rave-like experiences. It was time for the rest of the Marines to, oh jeez, break their seal.

Gasp!

As we all know, if one Marine doesn’t feel comfortable with removing his or her mask, we all suffer. Since we were already in pain, we didn’t bother with encouraging the insecure devil dogs. We just snapped photos, hoping they were in focus, but unsure due to the burning mixture of teardrops filling our eyes and rolling down our cheeks.

After being relieved from the heat of the room, and knowing the last round would be the strongest with the gas, we of course had to return again.

Right we were! The third time in was by far the worst, but that didn’t slow us down. As soon as we entered the room, we took off the masks, opened our eyes and the waterfalls of salty tears immediately began to stream down our faces. After five minutes, an ocean of tears, several odd looks and 12 pictures, all was just a memory — a fun, but kind of demented memory.



Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson



Lance Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

Word on the Street

“What do you do to get yourself going in the morning?”



“I drink a cup of coffee and listen to loud music to wake myself up.”

Megan Luis
Starbucks barista



“I like to PT and take a shower to get myself going.”

Sgt. James Johnson
Chief martial arts instructor
Regimental Schools



“I like to joke with the guys I work with, so we can all kind of wake up.”

Lance Cpl. José Holguincruz
Engineer
3rd Radio Bn.



“I like to take a shower and get some coffee.”

Aida Fajardo
Child Development Center



“I just wait for noon. I’m not a morning person at all.”

Petty Officer 1st class John Powers
Individual duty corpsman
3rd Marines

ENVIRONMENTAL: Base partners with community to achieve success

From A-2

removed 25-plus acres of mangrove from Mokapu Peninsula. The invasive plant species had completely overtaken the peninsula, especially the Nuupia Ponds Wildlife Management Area, and it was destroying many of the native species, plants and animals.

“Hawaii has lost over 25 percent of its wetlands to construction and deterioration; the plants, fish and birds depend on these areas to survive,” said Drigot. “Through the efforts of the Marines, and help from the community, we have been

able to make a difference in that statistic and give some of that lost paradise back to the islands.”

In 2002, MCB Hawaii implemented an Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan that addressed the base’s plans for conserving its natural resources during the next five years. The planned goals, objectives and management actions were designed to help the installation equally meet the challenge of balancing combat readiness, quality of life and conservation activities, all within an \$8 million budget.

Now two years into the plan, MCB

Hawaii has completed 131 actions, 26 of them ahead of schedule. Projects newly or nearly completed include reduced brushfire and erosion risks, state recognition of invasive species removal projects, a doubling of endangered Hawaiian stilts in the MCB Hawaii wetlands within 20 years, as well as collaborative community partnerships, with public schools, environmental staff, Native Hawaiian and civic groups. The list goes on and on, according to Drigot.

“It is a singular achievement to include the community to such an extent in the environmental program,” she

explained. “ But for us, it is Earth Day in the Marine Corps every day, and we want to share that stewardship viewpoint with the entire community.”

MCB Hawaii moved on to compete in the Department of Defense Environmental Awards Ceremony on May 5. The base won a citation for meritorious achievement in natural resources conservation, and environmental officials say they will continue to put their best foot forward and make a difference no matter what.

(Editor’s Note: See page B-1 for more on the environmental efforts of MCB Hawaii.)



Photo Courtesy of Craig T. Kojima / Star Bulletin

Navy Chaplain (Capt.) Joseph Estabrook, who has been named a bishop in the Catholic military archdiocese, stands before a stained glass design by artist Duane Preble. Estabrook will retire in June from his current position as base chaplain.

CHAPLAIN, From A-1

and so on. I kept getting offered new jobs. After 12 years in the Navy, I finally bought some furniture and decided to

stay,” he said, laughing and gesturing to the more than 30 covers, or hats, from various Navy vessels he has served aboard.

It’s really not surprising a man like

Estabrook has never settled into one place or stayed in one parish for any long period of time. When he talks about God and his own personal spirituality, he describes a journey.

“Whether you’re religious or not, I think everybody’s journey in life is focused on God, whether you know it or not. It doesn’t matter to me where your personal beliefs are; I think God will eventually get you.

“The responsibility of the chaplain is to walk the journey with Sailors and Marines at any given moment in time. I try to give them the tools they need to be prepared for the journey.”

After having extended again to oversee the completion of the new Marine Corps Base Hawaii chapel at Kaneohe Bay next year, Estabrook was finally ready to retire from the Navy and head back to his home diocese in New York, though his transition out of the military world was not one that he looked forward to.

“I was looking around and thinking how much I was going to miss this

world, and miss working with Marines and Sailors.”

Estabrook sees his new position as a bridge between the two worlds. After he retires this year and goes through holy orders on July 3rd to become a bishop in the Catholic Church, he hopes that he’ll still be as active as ever in the lives of Sailors and Marines.

“I’m going to go from base to base, and I intend to find out what the service members’ spiritual needs are, and I’m going to come up with programs for chaplains and priests that will help them in their ministry and counseling. I hope I can use my experience working with Sailors and Marines to continue doing the same kind of work. It’s really exciting.”

Estabrook never waivers about how important he thinks spirituality and faith are for the modern-day service member. In June, he will leave Marines and Sailors aboard MCB Hawaii as he moves on to continue providing service members with the best possible spiritual leadership they can get.